

Workers of the World Unite!

You Have Nothing to Lose But Your Chains!

WORKERS' CHALLENGE

VOL. I. No. 3

New York, N. Y., April 8, 1932

PRICE 5 CENTS

TEXTILE STRIKE EMBRACES 75,000 WORKERS AS IT ENTERS TWELFTH WEEK

Every Day Sees Increase in Power of Strike and Its Constant Spread to New Fields—Majority of Workers Were Unorganized Until Present Walkout

MAY HIT PATERSON SILK MILLS

Over 17,000 Operatives Out In Lawrence, Mass., and Leaders Confident of Victory for Strikers Everywhere Though the Struggle Last All Summer—Workers Prepare for Fight to Ligit

The textile strikers of Rhode Island who spontaneously and without any organization revolted against a wage cut of twenty per cent and a lengthening of hours initiated a movement that has spread like wildfire throughout the entire industry in New England and today by day it is gaining momentum. The strike started in Rhode Island, a state that had never before seen a strike on a large scale, a state wherein slaves had toiled for over a century with never a single revolt and a state that was held to be the stronghold of non-unionism in the industry was suddenly hurled into the vortex of the industrial struggle. These serfs who had labored for a century without protest finally reacted to capitalist oppression in the only way it is possible to act in this age. They went on strike. And from the first their solidarity has been magnificent and in the history of the labor movement their struggle will occupy an enviable place.

The past week witnessed the continuation of the struggle of the workers in Lawrence, Mass. The beginning to get in action had well closed up every mill with the exception of those controlled by the American Woolen Company which took no part in the proposed wage reduction. By the end of the week the number of operatives out strike in Lawrence had passed the 37,200 mark and every day more workers were joining the ranks of the strikers.

Further developments may involve the silk mill workers of Paterson, N. J., as conferences are being held in the various unions in the entire textile industry for the purpose of developing plans for united action against the employer. The Paterson ribbon and broad silk weavers number 35,000 and the manufacturers have threatened to lengthen the working week four hours. If this threat is carried out it means that the 35,000 will reinforce the ranks of the 75,000 already out.

Appeals are also being made to the garment workers, organization and other organizations handling raw material from the mills on an effort to draw them into the struggle. The more militant elements are gaining power and influence every day by massing upon united action in the struggle.

The problem of feeding the strikers is pressing, but is being handled in a masterly manner by the strikers committees and there is no doubt that the strikers will be able to endure the siege all summer. Cash and food relief through community supplies will be continued, according to Russell Palmer, secretary of the Amalgamated Textile Workers of America, an independent labor organization which has taken the lead in the Rhode Island situation, where the important Pawtucket Valley district has been kept solidly out since January 23 by this militant organization.

It is estimated that in the Rhode Island district 15,000 are out, 3,000 on strike in Lowell, 1,500 at Fitchburg, about 600 in Webster, 2,100 in New Hampshire, centering around Manchester, 200 at Norwalk, Conn.

Railroad Thugs Shoot Into Ranks of Rail Strikers

Next Day Strikers Hold Train of Scales for Several Hours in Retaliation. Sympathizers of Strikers Hurt Rocks at Scale.

Hardcore detectives of the Western Maryland Railroad shot a group of strikers of the Federated Shop Crafters and the Maintenance of Way Employees at the town of Hagerstown, Md., wounding several men, and probably fatally. The assault was provoked, the men were standing in the vicinity of the yards watching the difficulty experienced by a gang of scales who attempted to run a engine through the yards.

Since the strike call Saturday, the scales has been so active in the railroad shops and yards. No man could be

Move To Open Jail Doors For Political Prisoners

Organization for Amnesty to Start Big Drive for Release of New York Political Prisoners, Victims of After-War Hysteria and Judicial Criminality.

The Amnesty Alliance for New York State Political Prisoners, which has most of the militant industrial organizations and some political organizations affiliated with it, is proceeding to work with the determination to organize all the available forces in the state in favor of the release of those victims of the infamous New York State criminal anarchy law who are now serving terms in various prisons of the state.

WHO IS TO BLAME FOR NATION-WIDE COAL STRIKE?

Who should miners be held responsible for the coal strike? Is it the dollar who introduced that fact are ignored by those who always talk of a "square deal"?

It is too much to expect for this nation, that anti-unionist, editorial parrots, citizens' alliances that wavers and injunction judges will cease attacking the mine workers' cause after they read that the United States Geological Survey reports that strikes are responsible for but one-tenth of the loss in the mining industry in the past 20 years.

The aspers and errand boys for privilege insist that mining is "charged with a public interest" and that this justifies injunctions and "non-strike" laws. The errand boys do not demand that action be taken against coal owners, who are shown by a government bureau to be responsible for ninety-ninety of the loss since in mining.

secured because the union picks persuaded all who approached to remain away and be men instead of rats. It is understood that instructions came directly from the New York office of the railroad company at Baltimore for the railroad detectives to "start something" we can get the state troops into Hagerstown.

The firing precipitated disorder among several hours and the strikers are talking of proposing to defend themselves against another attack of the thugs of the railroad corporation.

Sympathizers Stop Train

Battered by rocks and with a number of strikers who locked the baggage car, Train No. 3 of the Western Maryland Railroad was virtually held a prisoner until a late hour tonight by strike sympathizers. The Sheriff of Washington County, Judge Wagner, of the Washington County Circuit Court, the Superintendent of the Hagerstown division of the railroad and the Superintendent of the Federated Shop Crafters affecting the strike went into the scene to see what could be done to create the situation. The railroad men, who surrounded the train, were immediately surrounded by the strikers as it stopped at one of the Hagerstown street crossings. The crowd began hammering on the door of the baggage car when it was found that strikers were locked in there. Rocks were thrown and a window of the car broken.

HALF A MILLION ORGANIZED WORKERS QUIT COAL MINES AND ARE SUPPORTED BY 100,000 UNORGANIZED

Bosses Yield to Union in Face of Strike Threat

At the Very Last Moment Employers and Dyers Plan to Walk Out the Employers Yield to Demands Against Wage Cut.

The Cleaners and Dyers' Union of Greater New York, affiliated with the United Mine Workers of America, has threatened to go on strike tonight with the Wholesale Cleaners and Dyers' Association, signed a long agreement granting all demands of the union.

The signing of the agreement prevented a strike that was to have been called this next morning. The association had demanded a 30 per cent reduction in wages, straight time for overtime, and three legal holidays a year with pay. The union had been prepared to strike against these demands.

By the agreement signed the association grants a 44-hour week, same rate of wages time-and-a-half for overtime, eight legal holidays with pay, year sanitary conditions and all other demands of the union.

The union will shortly call a strike in all open shops with the aim of organizing the entire industry. Effort, business manager of the union announced.

GOVERNOR OF PENNSYLVANIA THREATENS MINERS

Industrial Court Law and Henry J. Allen/Governor of Kansas, Defted As Miners Walk Out—Strike 100 Per Cent. In Anthracite Fields.

The Coal Strike is on. At midnight Friday, March 27, the contracts existing between the United Mine Workers of America and the mine barons, expired in every organized field with the exception of the state of Kentucky. From that moment there has not been one ounce of coal mined in the unionized fields of the anthracite region, where the strike is one hundred per cent strong.

Up to the last moment the leaders of the miners' organization assumed a compromising, conciliatory attitude, only to meet with arrogant rebuffs from the representatives of the mine barons.

There is no doubt that the mine leaders reluctantly ordered the strike, as conservative and reactionary leaders always fear the consequences of an open struggle against the employer. An actual struggle, lasting over a number of weeks, drains union treasuries and thereby endangers the fat salaries of the officials; also the rank and file of the workers on strike is likely to forget the result in open defiance of some branch of government, such as refusing to obey an injunction and thereby jeopardize their liberty. Instead of urging the membership of their unions into militant action against the entire capitalist class by a clarion call to united action of the part of all workers in the basic industries the leaders indulge in a pussyfooting policy and literally beg the employers to enter into negotiations with them.

The demand on the part of the membership of both the miners' and tail-makers' unions has forced the leaders of these gigantic organizations to make gestures toward united action. So far the only result has been a statement from the railroad officers in session in Chicago last Sunday, to the effect that they will hold a meeting on "discuss aid to the striking miners." Meanwhile the employers of labor, solidly united by their plans to crush labor and run the plans into action. While the leaders, too cowardly to act, are debating, the capitalist class is acting against the workers. Inaction in a crisis such as the one confronting American labor today is an act of treachery to the working class.

While the miners are striking and all the forces of capitalism in America are arrayed against them, the employers are preparing to smash the railroad unions as soon as they have settled with the miners. In face of the irrefutable evidence of this nation-wide conspiracy to crush labor and the leaders of labor are beating time and indulging in futile debate. In order to save the industry, if one work's union of the part of the miners, the tail-makers and the longshoremen, seaman and others engaged in the transportation industry, if one work's union of industry will bring the apostles of universal surrender, hiding their treachery under the names of "open shop" and the "Amen plan industry" to their knees. When they are on their knees, labor should then do just as they have done to labor—kick them in the face.

From every district in the entire jurisdiction of the organization, the response to the strike call was practically one hundred per cent. It was a wonderful display of solidarity on the part of the miners and if the rank and file were permitted by their officials to act as the lesson of life teach them

REPTILE PRESS LIES ABOUT WAGES OF COAL MINERS

National Industrial Conference Board Composed of Employers' Associations, Tries to Fool the Public With Fake Statistics.

In many of the large daily papers throughout the country there have appeared articles to the effect that the wages of anthracite miners had increased more than the wages of any other group of workers in the United States. The figures are from reports of the National Industrial Conference Board. As this board is unknown except to employers' associations it is likely to be mistaken for some impartial body, or perhaps a governmental body. The newspapers that printed it did not state the character of the organization, but merely printed its lies, without telling the public the nature of the thing. That is, of course, the function of the capitalist press. It is the function of the working-class press to expose such frauds and hold them up to the contempt of the working class. The capitalist press is the paid liar of capitalism. It lies about the capitalists, the workers, the government and consistently falsifies history in the making in order to keep the workers ignorant. It boasts of the "Intelligent American public," but it knows that its job is to do everything it can to keep that public ignorant, for intelligence means the downfall of capitalism.

The National Industrial Conference Board is a central body that represents a number of employers' organizations in the country, including numerous Chambers of Commerce, the National Association of Manufacturers, the National Metal Trades Association, the National Founders Association and many other avowedly capitalist associations. It maintains a staff of paid writers, whose "work" consists of printing lies about every industrial struggle of the workers. It came into existence in 1916 for the immediate purpose of crushing the eight-hour movement on the part of the workers and has been busy distorting facts ever since for the greater glory of capitalism.

This fact is never mentioned to the credit of capitalism. (Continued on Page 4)

INTERNATIONAL CORRESPONDENCE

OIL—THE SUPER-POWER GOVERNMENT

By Dr. W. van Ravestein (Rotterdam)

It is well known how petroleum seeks to consume the world's markets even before it sees the light of day. Ever since we learned the use of liquid fuel, oil has fast become the coal and gas of the industrial age...

Company was in spite of its Dutch name really an organ of the powers. The Royal Dutch Shell, last of a step would mean the drawing in of English capital, which with a product so important to the strategic point of view might place the country in a dangerous position...

not receive a majority, so that this matter is still at his post and was even even adjudged by the court. All further motions which sought to revise this were rejected...

Burns was recommended to this present job by Mr. Harding because of his private detective agency was built up in cases against organized labor...

royalty who have near the borders of Russia, taking advantage of every opportunity to strike a blow at the representatives of the Workers' and Peasants' Government...

READ THE STORY OF THE SACCO VANZETTI CASE In announcing a second edition of the 48-page pamphlet, 'The Story of the Sacco-Vanzetti Case'...

UNITED FRONT MEET OPENS IN BERLIN The conference of the Communist International, the Second International opened in Berlin last Sunday for the purpose of discussing means of forming a united front with the working class...

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The Victory of the Second International at the 21st International 21

By Charles Rappoport

The French Socialist Party that was formed immediately after the Congress of Tours is made up of two elements: first, the Socialists of the Left, headed by Jules Bracke, Blum, Renaudel, Vandervelde, and others...

PILOT TO MURDER RUSSIAN ENVOYS ON WAY TO GENOA

Princess Lieven and Other Suspects Jailed Until Delegates From Soviet Russia Pass Through Latvia

Princess Lieven and other suspects were jailed until delegates from Soviet Russia pass through Latvia. The route followed by Russian envoys was through Latvia, Lithuania, and Poland...

TO ALL UNIONS, SOCIALISTS, FRATERNAL AND LABOR ORGANIZATIONS:

Remember the political prisoners. Dedicate May 1 to amnesty. Let us co-operate for a united front for all political prisoners.

Let us prepare to initiate a drive for our New York State political prisoners after May 1. Send delegates to our conference at CASINO HALL 85 East 4th Street, at 8 P.M. Every Thursday Night ALL ORGANIZATIONS ARE INVITED

HEADQUARTERS

81 East 10th Street, New York City

Amnesty Alliance for New York State Political Prisoners AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS Include Italian Defense Committee, Workers' Defense Union, National Defense Committee, Sacco-Vanzetti Defense Committee, United Labor Council, Italian Chamber of Labor, and others.

Red Army of Soviet Russia Concentrates Near Three Countries

The exposure of monarchist plots against the Soviet legation while in Latvia have caused grave apprehensions among the governments of the three states bordering on Russia—Latvia, Estonia and Poland.

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Of course, when the distressed Standard Oil looked for new fields of exploitation, the American government (which for strategic reasons in this case was not a participant) backed it. Of the American government's efforts in this matter we need not say more than that with England, Mesopotamia, where England had a better position, and its agreement with Colombia in April 1921.

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PERVERTING HISTORY

Mr. James O'Neil, editor of The New York Call, claims the proud distinction of "historian of the Socialist Party." The fact that he is a member of the Socialist Party should be evidence enough to convince any worker with a degree of human intelligence that he would never write a true history of the record of the Socialist Party or of the history of the Socialist Party of America...

According to Herr Deuchering, force is the absolute evil. The first act of violence is to be put into his mind. His whole conception is a perversion of the meaning of force with the original sin. He talks about the degrading falsification of the word force...

MILWAUKEE SOCIALISTS AND THE "UNITED FRONT" The Third International declares organic unity with the workers and centers of the political movement is unity with the capitalist class. Many apologists for the Socialist Party of America and its legitimate offspring, the Workers' Party, would deny the facts of the Chicago trial...

The period from 1880 to 1886 is similar in many respects to the modern period of our country. It was a period of the most intense years in the struggle between the Socialists and the Communists. Again one of the most important issues is armed insurrection. As this early struggle exhausted the S. P. L. P. Communists...

There is no comparison between the Anarchist elements and the Communists. The Communists had no influence among the masses of American workers, and unity to be effective, must come from the rank and file of the workers. The Communist Party is a party to the extent that they facilitate that trend toward unity...

And a betrayal of the interests of the workers into the hands of their enemies, the capitalist class. They opposed them for the same reason the Marxists today oppose the Socialist Party of America, because N. Y. is reactionary and a servant of the capitalist class...

Our distinguished historian doesn't believe in force, except when it is necessary to use it against the workers. He bewails the fact that the Communists call for him, and his aggregation of convincing hypocrites...

We have seen the results of the actions of their kind in Russia. The United Front is a party where the working class is threatened capitulation. They are present at the Chicago trial...

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When the Socialist Party held its convention in Chicago in September, 1919, some of the contrasts in the old "left wing" who had elected delegates to the convention attended the session. The Socialist Party was a party of the workers and centers of the political movement...

AN ORNAMENT OF WORKERS' PARTY

Jack Brick Gearty, Informal Socialist, Manager, United and Socialist Party New Spinalizer for New York

We have charged the Workers' Party with being a party of the workers and centers of the political movement. We have charged the Workers' Party with being a party of the workers and centers of the political movement...

From the Pacific Coast comes the report that one of its principal speakers is one Jack Brick Gearty. The report says that Gearty should particularly recommend him to the Workers' Party...

New Castle had emerged from the sea in 1910 and the yellow star of the Workers' Party was a party of the workers and centers of the political movement. It was a party of the workers and centers of the political movement...

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WHO IS TO BLAME FOR NATION-WIDE COAL STRIKE?

(Continued from Page 1)

Another fact ignored is the fact that the coal strike is a result of the central competitive field (western Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois). This is the "red" field for the miners who have been fighting the struggle between the right and the left wing...

The owners will not permit the workers to ascertain their production costs. They will not permit the workers to ascertain their production costs. They will not permit the workers to ascertain their production costs...

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THE Y. W. L. CITY CONFERENCE

TO THE EDITOR:

On Saturday, April 1, the Y. W. L. of Greater N. Y. held a conference in the city of New York. The conference was held in the city of New York...

The City Committee, the highest body of the Y. W. L., has unanimously decided to call a general membership meeting. Every circle in the city will be invited to attend this meeting...

This shameful case having failed, the leaders resorted to naked force to break up the meeting. The Y. W. L. has no power to do this. The Y. W. L. has no power to do this...

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MACK CASE TO SUPREME COURT

BOSTON.—The case of Frank Mack, one of the 46 Boston Communists, has been taken to the Supreme Court...

The results of a further appeal of the Mack case would apply also to the case of the other 45 Communists. The Mack case would apply also to the case of the other 45 Communists...

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NEWARK CONCERT AND BALL The Newark branch of the Friends of the Soviet Republic is holding a Concert and Ball for the benefit of the starving in the famine regions of Russia. No ticket has been neglected to make it a success. This ball will take place in the Newark Labor Lyceum, 184 South 14th Street, on April 22, 1922.

Will meet you at the ENTERTAINMENT & VEGERINKA Shop Delegates League of the CLOAK MAKERS SATURDAY EVENING, APRIL 8, 1922 At 10 Siegel Street, NEWARK, N. Y. TICKETS 25 CENTS

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